

Response Under 37 CFR 1.116

Expedited Procedure

Examining Group 1600

Application No. 09/856,277

Reply to Final Office Action of June 10, 2004

Amdt. After Final Rejection dated September 10, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 702-010802

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of skeletal muscle subjected to temporary immobilization which results in muscle disuse syndrome in an animal or human for which such treatment is indicated, comprising administering ~~two or more doses daily~~ of a creatine compound in unit dosage form during the immobilization period and/or during a subsequent rehabilitation period, and further comprising administering about 5 g creatine compound, in unit dosage form, more than once daily during the immobilization period and administering about 5 g creatine compound, in unit dosage form, only once daily during at least a portion of the rehabilitation period, wherein ~~the creatine compound dosage amount decreases to one dose daily during the rehabilitation period for up to about ten weeks~~ lasts no more than about ten weeks.

14. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein said creatine compound is creatine.

15. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein said creatine compound is a creatine analogue.

16. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein the animal or human to be treated need not in addition perform a training programme to increase muscle volume and muscle functional capacity.

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17. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein the creatine compound, in unit dosage form, is administered in an amount that leads to a total daily supplementation of about 5 to 20 g creatine.

18. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein said muscle disuse syndrome is the result of reduced physical activity due to immobilization, disease, aging or handicap.

19-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the total treatment period lasts up to between about two to twelve weeks.

22. (Cancelled).